



1. How do you feel when you have been in this college for so many years?

I cannot believe that time seems to have passed by so quickly. It was not too long ago that I was still fresh from the National Institute of Education (NIE), learning how to design effective lessons, and mastering the necessary pedagogical content knowledge. I was so full of exuberant passion back then.

2. Can share with us what motivates you to keep going in this teaching journey?

Students are definitely my primary source of motivation everyday. Sometimes when I get discouraged, which I still do, from time to time, because of unmet expectations, I look to my ex-students, whom I call my kids, even after their graduation. I will swell with a sense of pride and joy at how they are living their lives, and the thought that I could possibly have had a teeny weeny bit of influence on them.

Other times, I will turn to my existing students. I will look at them for who they are as human beings and their multiple identities as sons and daughters, siblings and cousins, best friends and acquaintances, leaders and students, and I will think about how I can help them become better in every aspect of themselves, before they leave the nurturing environment of the school and embark into society, on their own. That gives me a sense of purpose in what I do on a daily basis.

3. What do you want your students to achieve?

I don't think there is anything that I want my students to achieve per se. To me whether or not you have the best grades, or a scholarship or an award, doesn't

determine my opinion of them. What matters most is the essence of who they are as human beings.

What I really want to see is my kiddos and kids being able to find meaning, passion and purpose in their lives, being able to lead the kind of lives they want for themselves, and most importantly, being humans.. I have always told my kiddos before they graduate, that to be humans means that they should always strive to Be Good and Do Good, through which then they will Feel Good. Another reminder that I will have often shared with some of my more recently graduated kids is that if there is an opportunity to be either kind or right, always choose to be kind, because that is foundational to being human. Being right is not fundamental to being human, but being kind is.